

House of Representatives

January 8, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I'm writing you today as a member of the Arkansas Legislature who is concerned about the ability of my constituents to benefit from a vibrant, innovative and widely-accessible Internet. As a lawmaker, I have a unique appreciation and understanding of the care we must take to ensure the laws and rules we pass fix an identified problem. I believe we must always strive to avoid unwelcome, unintended consequences. I've also seen that regulation cannot always keep up with innovation and, when that happens, it is consumers who suffer.

With this historical and informed viewpoint, I am very concerned about the net neutrality regulations the Commission is considering. These rules may stifle investment and innovation and take us further from the goal of universal access. I think we would all regret it if your actions on net neutrality hamper the more noble and far-reaching goal of broadband access for every American.

We are all amazed at the new broadband innovations and technologies that we read about on such a regular basis. This is an industry that is expanding, innovating and changing every day. It's educating our students in new, forward-thinking ways. It's providing cost-effective solutions for health care. It's allowing large and small businesses, rural and urban employers and cities and towns to compete and sell their services and goods on a more level playing field.

Please take heed: cumbersome regulations, or convoluted processes, appear unnecessary at best and, at the worst, could significantly impede investment and market-driven changes and growth.

REPRESENTATIVE

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DISTRICT 10

Counties: Part Cleveland County Part Lincoln County Part Drew County Part Jefferson County

COMMITTEES

Revenue and Taxation Complaints and Remediation Subcommittee

Insurance and Commerce Utilities Subcommittee

Joint Committee on Energy

Co-Chairperson, Legislative Council In Arkansas, we are working hard every day to ensure our consumers and businesses have access to the innovative, up-to-date tools and technologies they need to at home, at school, at work and in medical and other settings. Over-reaching regulations that stymie development of new tools and technologies or inhibit lower costs and increased access are contrary to these goals. "Caution" should be your watchword. Please tread slowly and continue to diligently study the need for these changes and work with all parties involved to eradicate harmful, unintended consequences.

Sincerely,

Allen Maxwell

State Representative

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